

Remarks

Reconsideration of the captioned application as amended herewith and in view of the following Remarks and Arguments is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claim 5 has been canceled. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, and 9 - 15 will be pending in the application. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to limit the shape of the raised elements to a shape selected from the group consisting of circular dots, hexagons, hearts, diamonds, rectangles, stars and triangles. Support for these amendments comes from page 6, lines 16 – 17, and page 7, lines 25 – 30 of the specification as filed.

II. The Rejection Over RD 382014 In View of Pung et al.

Claims 1, 3 – 5, 7, 9 – 11, and 13 – 15 were rejected as being unpatentable over RD 382014 A in combination with WO 9925318 to Pung et al. ("318").

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that RD 382014 teaches textured articles with raised elements, but acknowledged that the reference does not teach the claimed substrate. The Examiner then relied on '318 for teachings related to wipe substrates.

As amended, the present invention requires raised elements in the form of a shape selected from the group consisting of circular dots, hexagons, hearts, diamonds, rectangles, stars and triangles. In contrast to the present invention, RD 382014 requires scoop-shaped or M shaped elements to collect and remove bowel movements from the skin. The reference states that suitable raised element shapes are also taught in United States Patent No. 5,058,247 and United States Patent No. 5,116,563. Both Patents teach raised elements that have tails or prongs (see Figures 6A – 9B of 5,116,563 and Figures 2 and 4 of 5,058,247). In contrast to the teachings of '563 and '247, the present inventors avoid tailing in order to provide the raised elements (see page 6, lines 9 – 12 of the specification as filed).

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the references cited by the Examiner teach or suggest raised elements in the form of a shape selected from the group consisting of circular dots, hexagons, hearts, diamonds, rectangles, stars and triangles on a wipe substrate. The raised elements of RD 382014 need a tail or hook, i.e., a cavity, in order to collect bowel movements. The raised elements of RD 382014 therefore can not be of a shape selected from the group consisting of circular

dots, hexagons, hearts, diamonds, rectangles, stars and triangles. As discussed above, the shapes taught in '247 and '563 have tails or prongs.

Further, the present invention requires a substrate that has raised elements and is loaded with a composition selected from a skin care composition and a hair care composition. The articles of the present invention provide a wipe that may be utilized to deliver skin care or hair care compositions to the skin or hair. The raised elements in the articles of the present invention further provide at least one surface of the article that is useful for exfoliating the skin. Applicants respectfully submit that the references relied upon by the Examiner do not teach or suggest an article that can be utilized to exfoliate the skin, as well as to deliver skin care or hair care compositions to the skin or hair.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of the references does not provide the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection has been overcome and therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

III. The Rejection Over RD 382014 In View of Pung et al. and Thomas et al.

Claim 12 was rejected as being unpatentable over RD 382014 in combination with '318, in further combination with United States Patent No. 5,116,563 to Thomas et al. ("563"). The Examiner acknowledged that RD 382014 and '318 do not teach the claimed coating techniques, and relied upon '563 for teachings related to coating techniques. Applicants respectfully submit that the '563 patent does not cure the deficiencies of RD 382014 and '318 discussed above. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, the rejection should be withdrawn.

IV. Conclusion

Applicants believe that the foregoing presents a full and complete response to the outstanding Office Action. An early and favorable response to this Amendment is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner feels that a discussion with Applicants' representative would be helpful in resolving the outstanding issues, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the number provided below.

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If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 10-0750/JBP-562/EMH. If a fee is required for an Extension of time 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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